Leasing and finance companies in Delhi

*330. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large number of leasing and finance companies are working in Delhi without RBI licence;

(b) whether Sippy Leasing and Finance Pvt. Ltd., 217, Express Tower, Azadpur, Delhi is also operating without RBI approval;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that the above cited company has been closed and a new company *viz.* BBC Chit Fund Pvt. Ltd., has been opened by the same proprietor; and

(e) if so, the action proposed to be taken by Government against the above companies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) to (c) As per the Reserve Bank of India, while some of the applications submitted by certain companies for issue of the Certificate of Registration are pending for disposal at RBI's New Delhi Regional Office, there is no information with the Bank about unauthorised/illegal operation of large number of Non-Banking Financial Companies. The name of Sippy Leasing and Finance Pvt. Ltd., 217, Express Tower, Azadpur, Delhi does not appear in the mailing list maintained by the RBI's New Delhi Regional Office, as it has not applied for the Certificate of Registration. This company's operation as Non-Banking Financial Company, if any, is not available with the Bank. Therefore, the RBI could not confirm whether the proprietor of the BBC Chit Fund Pvt. Ltd. and the Sippy Leasing & Finance Pvt. Ltd. is the same. However, the Registrar of Chit Fund, Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi has confirmed that the BBC Chit Fund Pvt. Ltd. is a Private Limited Company Registered at 3922-23, Roshanara Road, Delhi and shifted with effect from 14.11.1994 at 217 Express Tower, Commercial Complex, Azadpur, Delhi with S/Shri Narender Kumar and Ashwini Kumar, sons of Shri Manohar Lal resident of F2/2, Model Town, Delhi-110 009 as Directors. The

Reserve Bank of India and Registrar of Chit Fund have not received any complaint against these companies till date and, hence, no action is required to be taken against them.

Import of agricultural products

*331. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are monitoring the import of agricultural products;

(b) if so, the details thereof, indicating the imports of different categories of products from various countries during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(c) whether any instance of dumping of agricultural products has come to Government's notice; and

(d) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Standing Group of Secretaries which is monitoring the import of identified 300 Sensitive Items. The said list contains certain agricultural products also. A Statement showing import of major agricultural products during 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (upto Jan. 2002) is enclosed (*See* below). Wherever abnormal increases in import are noticed, the Standing Group has been recommending increases in tariffs. Thus, for instance, in the budget for the year 2000-2001, import of duties on many of the agricultural items, (Chapter 1 to 24 of ITC (HS) Classifications of Export and Import Items, 1997-2002), were increased to provide protection to domestic farmers. Duty on rice was increased from 0% to upto 80% on maize from 0% to 50% on apples from 35% to 50% and on wheat raised to 50%. Similarly, in the budget for the year 2001-2002, the custom duty on coconut, copra, tea and coffee was raised from 35% to 70%. In the budget for